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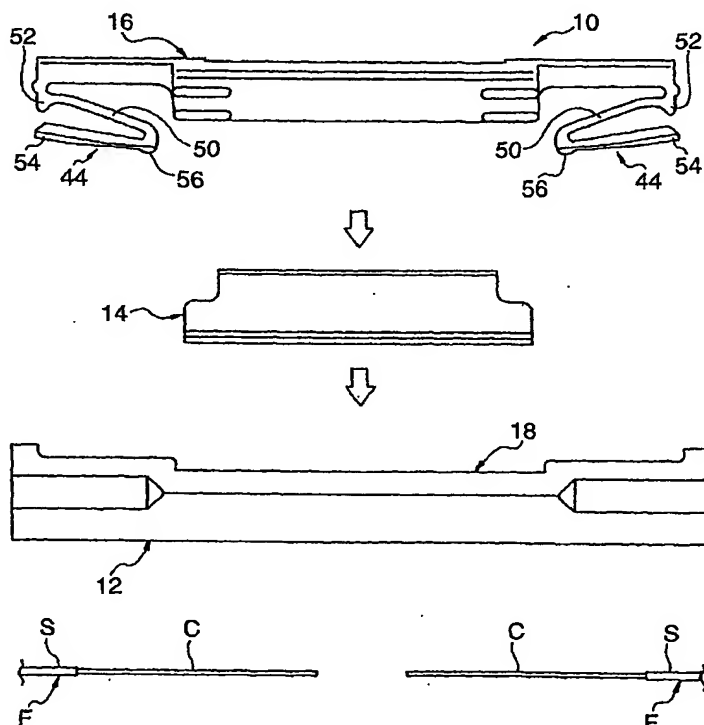
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(54) Title: OPTICAL FIBER CONNECTING DEVICE



(57) Abstract: An optical fiber connecting device (10) has a pair of holding elements (44) which are formed on an actuating member (16) and are capable of undergoing elastic deformation as a sheath holding mechanism for securing, to a body (12), the sheath portions (S) of the optical fibers (F) having uncoated fiber elements (C) to be held by the fiber-element securing member (14). The holding elements (44) form a pair of passages for guiding the optical fibers (F) on the body (12). The holding elements (44) undergo the elastic deformation accompanying the motion, on the body (12), of the actuating member (16) for closing the fiber-element securing member (14), and push and hold the sheath portions (S) of the optical fibers (F) in the corresponding passages by utilizing their own elastic restoring forces. Each holding element (44) includes a pressing part (54) formed at a free end separated away from a fixed end part (52), and an engaging part (56) positioned between the fixed end part (52) and the pressing part (54). The optical fiber connecting device can have a reduced number of parts and can provide a stable sheath-holding function without being affected by dimensional errors in the constituent parts.



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